IDEA Assurances – Revision Explanation

A number of you have asked about the newly revised assurances required this year as part of the IDEA application. DPI revised assurances to incorporate terms required by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), to respond to Legislative Audit Bureau concerns, and in preparation for OSEP's monitoring of Wisconsin in 2012. Most of the IDEA assurances are not new; they are revised to create additional transparency. Other assurances, such as the assurance relating to e-mailing and texting while driving, are new conditions imposed by the terms of DPI's IDEA grant award from OSEP. In addition, this year we had to revise the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) assurances to include a term for the purchase of computer equipment; this was necessary due to a change in federal requirements which required the submission of a new assurance.

Just a reminder: Although the instructions on the assurance forms state to "upload scanned assurances to the budget software," we are requesting that LEAs scan signed assurance forms into a pdf and e-mail to dpiidea@dpi.wi.gov. We were not able to get the software enhancement in place before the release of the budget, so we will be loading your signed assurances into the system later this summer.

These assurances are due by <u>JULY 1, 2011!!</u> The assurance form has a place for three signatures, so be sure that all three sections are signed and e-mailed to DPI. Budgets cannot be reviewed until the assurances have been received. In addition, the start date for expenditures is suspended until the assurances and budget application are submitted.

- Assurance Form (dated 5/11): http://dpi.wi.gov/forms/doc/f3201-assurances.doc
- GEPA Assurances and Certification: http://dpi.wi.gov/forms/doc/f1091.doc
- 2r Charter Assurance Form (dated 5/11): http://dpi.wi.gov/forms/doc/f3201-assurances-2r.doc

IDEA Budgets – Due July 1, 2011

A very helpful two-page document with tips and reminders for working with the new fiscal year can be viewed here: www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/pdf/fy12-budget-tips.pdf. If you are having issues with the budget software, check here first to see if it is addressed.

A brief recorded webinar has been created as an overview of the IDEA budget software and the minor changes that have been made. The PowerPoint is a pdf with speaker notes of the presentation.

- Recorded webinar: www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/av/fy12-budget-updates.wmv
- Companion PowerPoint (pdf) with Speaker Notes: www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/pdf/fy12-budget-updates-ppt.pdf

If you happened to have listened to a prior version of the recorded webinar, this one actually has me speaking.